

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 23 with the following:

As shown in Figures 3 and 4, each of the sensor sections 20A (20B) comprises a plurality of sensor chips 21A (21B) arranged in a row in the direction of arrow X (the main scanning direction). The hatched portion 24A (24B) in each sensor chip 21A (21B) is an effective area which can sense light. In more detail, as shown in Figure 4, the effective area 24A (24B) comprises an array of photoelectric convertor elements 22 extending in the main scanning direction, and the sensor chip 21A (21B) has noneffective areas on opposite ends of the effective area 24A (24B). The sensor section 20A (20B) is formed by connecting a plurality of such sensor chips 21A (21B) end to end, and accordingly, in the sensor section 20A (20B), the effective areas 24A (24B) and the noneffective areas 25A (25B) are alternately arranged in the main scanning direction X. The ~~sensor~~ sensor chip 21A (21B) may be, for instance, an amorphous ~~silicone~~ silicon sensor, a CCD sensor or a MOS image sensor.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 32 with the following:

Further when [[a]] two sets of stimulated emission detecting means are provided, light collecting efficiency is enhanced and an image higher in S/N can be obtained as compared with when only one set of stimulated emission detecting means is employed.